

species, have been reduced to varietal rank, making a total of seven new combinations.

It is gratifying to know that through an assistantship at Gray Herbarium Mr. Rollins will be enabled to expand his study to include *Arabis* of western North America.—LINCOLN CONSTANCE.

Handbook of Northwest Flowering Plants. By HELEN M. GILKEY. Pp. 407. Metropolitan Press, Portland, Oregon, 1936. \$2.25.

The author describes her book as "an illustrated hand-book of the more conspicuous plants of the Northwest," designed especially for beginning students and interested laymen. The area covered is roughly that which Piper termed "the Vancouver Strip," that is, the region from the summit of the Cascades to the Pacific, and from the northern boundary of the California flora to northern Washington. The author considers technical questions of nomenclature and specific concept to be beyond the scope, and aside from the main purpose, of this volume. Insofar as possible, Dr. Gilkey has avoided technical terminology in keys and descriptions, and has omitted many of the groups of especial difficulty or of less interest to amateur flower lovers.

The illustrations constitute a most distinctive feature of the flora, text figures of more than three hundred species making the book invaluable for students of limited experience. The family and generic lines are closely in accordance with Jepson's "Manual of the Flowering Plants of California"; the nomenclature is conservative; rare and doubtful species are, for the most part, excluded or mentioned only briefly. There are no new names published in this work.

Despite its modest pretensions, the new handbook is a worthwhile effort to fill, in part, the void left by the exhausting of available copies of Piper and Beattie, "Flora of the Northwest Coast."—LINCOLN CONSTANCE.

The Early Flowering of Plants in Lane County, Oregon, in 1934. By LOUIS F. HENDERSON. University of Oregon Monographs, Studies in Botany, Number 1. Pp. 16. Eugene, Oregon, June, 1936. \$.25.

The precocious season of 1934 caused much speculation as to just how premature that spring and summer actually were. It has remained for Professor Henderson, speaking from fifty years' experience with the flora of the Northwest, to subject these conjectures to a scientific analysis. For each of 165 species the earliest date of blooming in 1934 was compared with the average date of blooming compiled from collections made during the last four or five decades. His general conclusions are that most early spring plants bloomed two months in advance of their usual time; trees, 1 month and 7 days; water plants, 1 month; Hudsonian-Alpine zone plants, 1 month and 2 days; bog plants, 1 month, 7 days; early spring herbs, 2 to 3½ months; late summer flowers,